THE UNDERGRADUATE.

VOL. III. MIDDLEBURY, VT., DECEMBER, 1877. NO. 3.

Middlebury College,

FOUNDED IN 1800.

THE COLLEGE is finely located in the midst of a beautiful park in the village of Middlebury, Vermont. The locality is healthful, and the College offers the advantage of thorough instruction at a moderate cost.

The requirements for admission and course of instruction are as follows:

REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION.

LATIN.—Latin Grammar, including the Rules of Prosody and Scanning; Cæsar's Commentaries, four books, or Sallust's Conspiracy of Catilina; Cicero, six orations, including the four against Catiline; Virgil, the Bucolics, and six books of the Æneid; Arnold's Latin Prose Composition, to the VIIth Chapter.

GREEK.—Greek Grammar; Xenophon's Anabasis, three books; Homer's Iliad, two books.

Ancient and Modern Geography.

Arithmetic; Algebra through Equations of the Second Degree, and three books of Loomis' Geometry.

Real equivalents will be accepted in place of any of the Latin or Greek authors named above.

COURSE OF INSTRUCTION.

FRESHMAN CLASS.—Latin Grammar (Harkness), Livy (Lincoln's Selections), Cicero De Senectute and De Amicitia (Chase & Stuart), Horace's Odes and Epodes (Macleane), Homer's Odyssey (Merry), Herodotus and Thucydides (Mather), Xenophon's Memorabilia (Robbins), Latin Prose Composition (Arnold), Greek Prose Composition (Jones), Classical History and Antiquity, Etymology and Syntax of the Greek Verb (Hadley and Goodwin), Algebra (Davies' Bourdon), Geometry (Loomis).

SOPHOMORE CLASS.—Horace's Epistle and Satires (Macleane), Cicero, De Officiis or Tusculan Disputations (Chase), Tacitus, Histories or Germania and Agricola (Tyler), Sophocles, Lysias, Aristophanes, Exercises in writing Latin and Greek, German (Whitney's Grammar and Reader), Analytical Geometry (Loomis), Trigonometry, Plane and Spherical, Mensuration, Surveying, with practice in the field, Navigation (Loomis), Calculus (Loomis), Trench's Study of Words and English Past and Present, Rhetoric (Hart), Physiology (Dalton).

JUNIOR CLASS.—Quintilian (Frieze), Select Plays of Terence (Davies), or Satires of Juvenal (Escott), German (Whitney's Grammar and Reader), Natural Philosophy (Snell's Olmstead), Astronomy (Loomis), Chemistry (Elliot and Storer), Botany (Gray), Rhetoric (Whately), Logic (Jevons), Evidences of Christianity (Paley).

SENIOR CLASS.—Political Economy (Perry), International Law (Woolsey), History of Civilization (Guizot), Butler's Analogy, Fine Art (Torrey), Natural Theology (Paley), Intellectual Philosophy (Porter), Moral Science (Alexander, Peabody), History of Grecian Philosophy, Geology (Dana), Zoology (Tenney), English Literature (Taine), Forensic Discussions, Review of the Studies of the Year.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

Instruction is given chiefly in connection with text books, but in each department lectures are given by members of the Faculty, supplementing the text book and giving in concise form the latest investigations.

The Cabinet and Museum contains a large number of specimens, and is designed especially for the use of the classes in Natural History. The specimens are all placed under their respective classes and are conspicuously labeled.

The College Library contains over 12,000 volumes, and a permanent fund has been recently established for its enlargement.

There are also valuable libraries belonging to the Philomathesian and Philadelphian Societies.

A College Reading Room, free to all, has all the more important English and American periodical literature on file.

The instruction aims to be practical as well as theoretical, and for this reason, in Surveying and the use of the Transit, field practice is given.

A well-appointed Laboratory, with a separate desk for each student, furnishes unusual facilities for the study of Chemistry.

In Botany and Geology numerous expeditions into the surrounding country are organized. In Botany, each student is required to prepare a herbarium containing at least seventy-five specimens, and a prize is offered for the largest and best collection.

There are also numerous prizes offered for excellence in the different departments. These, in connection with the liberal aid by scholarships furnished to those whose circumstances require it, render the tuition of many practically free, and no young man of energy need be deterred by financial considerations from entering the College.

CALENDAR.

1877. Sept. 6.—Fall Term began, Thursday.
Dec. 18.—Fall Term ends, Tuesday.
Winter vacation of three weeks.
1878. Jan. 10.—Winter Term begins, Thursday.
Mar. 26.—Junior Exhibition, Tuesday evening.
Mar. 26—Winter Term ends, Tuesday.
Spring vacation of two weeks.
Apr. 11.—Spring Term begins, Thursday.
June 25.—Annual Examination begins, Tuesday.
June 30.—Baccalaureate Sermon and Anniversary of Philadelphian Society, Sunday.
July 1.—Examination of candidates for admission, Monday.
July 2.—Anniversary of the Associated Alumni.
July 3.—Commencement, Wednesday.
Summer vacation of ten weeks.
Sept. 12—Fall Term begins, Thursday.

For Catalogue and any information, address the President,

C. B. Hulbert,

Middlebury, Vt.

FOR GENTLEMEN'S OUTFIT COMPLETE

—CALL ON—

FRANK A. BOND

And you can buy at lowest prices anything worn by man from head to toe, made up in the latest style of workmanship. Also, a very large assortment of Ladies', Misses' and Children's shoes.

LAST BUT NOT LEAST,

$5,000 in Groceries & Provisions

AT BOTTOM PRICES,

Delivered to any part of the village.

ONE PRICE TO ALL.

REMEMBER THE PLACE

BOND'S NEW STORE, South End of Bridge,

MIDDLEBURY, VT.

W. W. EATON & CO.

GENTS' AND BOYS' CLOTHING,

—AND—

FURNISHING GOODS,

HATS, CAPS AND FINE BOOTS.

Wm. SEYMOUR ALDEN,

——DEALER IN——

BOOKS, STATIONERY,
MUSIC, FANCY GOODS, ETC.

☞Best Assortment at Lowest Prices, for CASH.

SPECIAL DISCOUNTS

To Teachers, Professional Men and Schools.

SHELDON & CO,

DRUGGISTS,

AND DEALERS IN GROCERIES,

AND BOOTS & SHOES.

Physicians' Prescriptions carefully compounded by one who has had 25 years' experience.

W. H. Wright's celebrated brands of cigars, the MASSASOIT and BATTALION, constantly on hand.

W. W. SWINEY, Agt.,

—DEALER IN—

COFFINS, CASKETS & BURIAL ROBES

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

A Good Hearse in Attendance

Free of Charge.

JAMES E. NEGUS,

MERCHANT TAILOR

MIDDLEBURY, VT.

The Undergraduate.

VOL. III. MIDDLEBURY, VT., DECEMBER, 1877. NO. 3.

POESIE.

A maddened crowd rush wildly o'er a way
Stretched through a desert drear. As fierce they race
Along that sun-burnt heath, ribbed o'er each face
Are wrinkled cares, and glistering drops betray
The anguish of their souls. The light of day
They darken by dull clouds of heaving sighs.
But lo! along life's parched and dismal way
The sacred shrines of Poesie arise.
Around, bright fountains sparkle in the sun;
And, deep withdrawn, cool bow'rs and gentle slopes,
Moss covered, fringe the brooks that murmuring run.
And at the sculptured gates, 'mid fears and hopes,
The virtuous muse, white-armed, divinely calls
The grief-scourged world within those Eden walls.

H.

SAMUEL T. COLERIDGE.

Suppose you were walking some day in the woods, and among all the trees which you saw around you, you should stop and turn your attention upon one alone: and upon looking at it you should then remark: It seems to be firmly rooted in the ground, it looks strong and vigorous, it has a graceful and pleasing form, it has every appearance of life and growth, it rises high and stately, its branches are wide and extended and its foliage is beautiful and rich; but yet on a closer inspection you should observe that the same tree had no perfectly finished top, that its branches had no regular order, that its leaves were devoid of good outline and wanting in apex and that its foliage lacked the highest richness and harmony of color. Such would, doubtless, and perhaps rightly, be your impression if you were walking among the literary trees and should stop and turn your attention exclusively to the works of Samuel T. Coleridge. You would be impressed with his sound and deep-rooted reflections, his strong and cogent reasonings, his easy and graceful style, his growth and progress of mind, his high and lofty imagination, his wide and extended research, the beauty and richness of his language, and the clearness and simplicity of his expressions; but yet, on a closer inspection, you would find many imperfections. You would realize at once the oft repeated saying "that he always began, but never ended." You would often be conscious that he lacked both system and order, that his reasoning was indistinct and invalid, that his thoughts were encumbered and entangled in the deep mazes of language, and that his modes of expression and flights of fancy were the offspring of a half-energetic, half-dreary imagination.

But let us think of Coleridge, for a moment, as he exhibited himself in his conversations. There it was that he showed the power and splendor of an intellectual genius; there he was most free and most easy. He, indeed, was able to draw forth from his great stock of learning and wisdom, which he had collected by enormous reading and extensive travel, strains of thought which were pleasing to the ear and worthy of remembrance. All that we now have to show what those sweet strains were is contained in his "Table Talk." And yet that is enough, for in it there is such variety of subjects, such variations in treatment, such passages of wit, such paragraphs of thought and fancy, that we can but read with delight and profit. All his anecdotes seem to have been well chosen and his illustrations well drawn, and yet he, like too many others, was often tedious and wearisome, and many who came to listen would soon fall off to sleep.

Again, let us think of him as a philosopher. And as such he truly deserves praise. Much of his reasoning is easy and rich, abounding in sharp distinctions and discriminations. His whole philosophy is calculated to build up manly character and to develop habits of thought. He has

indeed, many essays of rare beauty and clearness, filled with sound and elevating sentiments. They exhibit the force of his deep reflection, his comprehensive and meditative mind, his far-reaching insight, his strong and determined will, and I might add, his almost never-ending investigation. But he who reads for amusement simply had better not trouble himself with the philosophical works of Coleridge. And yet I agree with the author himself, in saying that "he who seeks instruction in them will not fail to find entertainment;" and the more one reads them, the more of that entertainment will he obtain. Indeed, there is nothing to compare with many of his moral and religious aphorisms, and there is a new freshness every time they are read. He was, 'tis true, an abundant and copious writer, and yet, in all that varying abundance there are many grains of solid food. He was also many times exceedingly dull and dry, because he lacked a definite end and thus failed to confine himself to one subject or one department.

We must not overlook the fact that Coleridge was also a great critic. He was not one of those critics who always follow some prescribed law, but rather one who, with a feeling of interest and a knowledge of the subject matter, passed his judgment without bias or prejudice. Indeed, he had that originality of mind and those powers of judgment which are especially needful to a critic. And we have many fine criticisms of his upon poetry, the drama and dramatists, which give evidence of that originality and those mighty powers. Among them we may well mention his criticisms upon the poetry of Wordsworth. They are excellent; they exhibit the true excellences and defects of that poet, they give praise when due and censure when needful; and besides, they give us an idea of true criticism, and contain many important facts in regard to poetry itself. We may also mention his notes upon Shakespeare. They are short and brief, but contain much wisdom and wit. They were the means of throwing much light upon those wonderful dramas and of creating a new interest in them. He, indeed, spoke loudly against those who called Shakespeare "irregular and extravagant," saying that if he had bound himself to the old Greek "unities" he would have clothed his living thoughts in a mere "dead form." But since he chose rather to clothe his living thoughts in a living form they are the more interesting and the more worthy of perusal.

Again, let us think of Coleridge as a poet. Some have expressed the wish that he had confined himself exclusively to poetry. They, I suppose, have felt the beauty and richness of his sentiments, the smoothness and melody of his verse, the simplicity and perspicuity of his language, his vivid and airy imagination, and his pleasing and delightful images. But they surely did not experience that in his early productions, for they are characterized simply and only by numerous "double epithets," far-fetched metaphors, irregularities of verse, obscurity, want of images and fancies, a lack of energy and activity, and, above all, a deficiency of common sense. Yet I will agree with any one in saying that the first mentioned peculiarities are very prominent in his later poetic productions, such as the "Rime of the Ancient Mariner," or the "Hymn in the Vale of Chamouni."

Such are some of the excellences and defects of this great author. His writings deserve careful perusal and study from every lover of literature and philosophy. And he who peruses and studies them most will extract the most purity and refinement.

CONCERNING THE CLASSIC MYTHOLOGY.

A nation comes into existence, lives for a brief period, and passing away, leaves behind it records by which we are to judge of its national character. The massive fortifications which are still seen in Italy, and which are ascribed to the Pelasgians as their builders, attest their belligerent and warlike nature. The remains of magnificent roads and other public works among the mountains of Peru, tell us of the peaceful character of the ancient Peruvians, and of a wealth

acquired by the arts of commerce rather than of war.

Nations have passed away and left us scarcely more than enough to establish the fact of their existence, while others have left an abundance of material which shows to what an advanced state of civilization they attained, and tells of national glory and renown. The Greeks and Romans are among the latter, and have been more generous in their legacies to the succeeding ages than other nations. And one of the most interesting chapters in their history, is that which tells us of the stories and legends of their earlier days. And although classical mythology relates for the most part to gods and goddesses, to beautiful nymphs and frightful monsters, yet it seems to reveal much of human nature, and to show forth many of the personal characteristics of the people at that time.

It is easy to see that one trait of human nature which many of these myths reveal, is a desire to account for the various phenomena which were not understood, and also for many names of places and objects. The sun in its course through the heavens, was to them the fiery chariot driven by Apollo. In the lightning they recognized the thunderbolts, forged by Vulcan and hurled by Jupiter; and the smoke from Ætna rose from the forges where these bolts were made. The origin of Hellespont, Bosphorus, and the name of the sea which is called Ionian, is well known. We have often noticed how the sunflower turns on its stem so as to face the sun. The ancients accounted for this by a myth which relates that the nymph Clytie loved Apollo, and as he did not return her love, she sat in mournful silence watching him as he drove his chariot through the heavens, seeing no other object, her gaze fixed constantly on him. Finally she became rooted in the ground, and her face changed into a flower which always turns on its stem so as to face the sun.

This desire to account for the mysterious belongs to every period, and while in later times it has led to the discovery of many of nature's laws, in the earlier ages it was doubtless the source of many of these legends.

One peculiarity of the ancients which classical mythology reveals, is the keen sense of the ludicrous which they must have possessed in order to have appreciated the dry wit and bitter sarcasm with which many of these legends abound. When Tmolus awarded to Apollo the prize for excellence in music, King Midas differed from him and protested against the award. Whereupon Apollo, indignant that such a depraved pair of ears should have the human form, changed them so that they resembled those of an ass. The natives of Lycia, with jeers and threats of violence, prevented Latona from quenching her thirst at one of their ponds, and the indignant gods changed them for their insolence into croaking frogs. Perhaps the expression, "It's all in your eye," which we sometimes hear, might be traced to a classical source, and to this same grim humor which is so constantly manifesting itself; for it is said, that when Ulysses thrust the burning stake into the eye of Polyphemus, and that monster, roaring with rage, sought the cause of his pain, Ulysses called out in derision that "it was all in his eye."

Nearly all classical mythology is pervaded by this humorous spirit, which, grim and stern though it be, yet reveals those same traits of character that afterwards, when they had been refined and developed by education and mental culture, rendered classical literature famous for its satire, sarcasm and wit.

If we examine the condition of woman and her relation toward man, as it is shown by classical mythology, we find that it differs somewhat from her condition among other barbarous nations. She seems to take a higher stand, and to rank more as an equal with man. There seems to be a greater admiration of physical beauty in woman, a warmer regard for purity and chastity, a truer appreciation of devotion and fidelity; and yet we find them to a great extent attributing to the female sex those characteristics which they regarded with contempt and scorn, and she does not seem to command the respect and

attention, which she did in the later history of these nations. One of their myths ascribes her origin to Jupiter, who sent her as a punishment to Prometheus for his presumption in stealing fire from heaven, and to man for accepting it. It was Pandora who, impelled by curiosity, opened the jar containing the evils of life, such as envy, spite and revenge, and let them loose in the world. The exceeding jealousy of Juno is well known. She kept poor old Jupiter, who was immensely fond of flirting with beautiful nymphs, in a constant state of trepidation lest she should discover some of his intrigues; and he never seems to resemble mortal man more, than when, like some henpecked husband, he seeks to elude the vigilance of Juno. It was the loquacious nymph, Echo, who always had the last word, whom Narcissus, not seeming to relish the idea of uniting his destiny with such a person, and evidently having a keen sense of the evils which would result from such a union, told most emphatically that he would rather die than that she should have him. A revengeful, vindictive spirit, malicious and bitter, implacable and unrelenting to the last degree, is more often given to female characters in mythology, as to Latona, Circe, Scylla and Medea.

On the other hand, their admiration for the faithfulness and loyalty of woman is attested by many a myth, in which she is represented as being endowed with these characteristics. We remember the prudent Penelope, who was faithful to her absent husband and resisted the entreaties of numerous suitors, for twenty long years. The devoted Alcestis generously offers to die in order that her husband may live. Antigone follows her blind father, who has been banished from his home, and remains with him all through his wanderings, ministering to his wants until he died; and afterwards she suffered a terrible death for attempting to bury her brother's body, which a cruel uncle had commanded should remain unburied. The light of these myths seems to show that, while they had no charity for the weakness of woman, there were yet many excellent qualities which they recognized and to which they rendered due homage.

And lastly, these stories and legends breathe forth a stern spirit of vengeance which could only have been infused into them by a people almost devoid of mercy and pity. Whenever immortals contend with each other, the defeated suffers the most dire and dreadful punishment which the other can devise, and seldom indeed does any prayer for mercy lessen his misery.

Although classical mythology may have been impressed somewhat with the character of those who put it for the first time into writing, still, we think we may safely say that for the most part it reveals, with a good degree of truthfulness, those traits of character which were peculiar to their ancestors during a prehistoric period.

G.

THE EASTERN QUESTION, FROM A DISINTERESTED POINT OF VIEW.

In the fourteenth century the attention of the animals of Europe was directed to a huge Turkey hovering over the Asiatic coast of the Bosphorus. Where this old Turkey was hatched is one of the unfathomable mysteries in the history of the world. But hatched he was, and strong he grew, until, one fine day, stretching out his wings, he soared majestically across the strait and landed in the territory of the Greek Mastiff. The old Mastiff growled, as only doggish natures can growl, and charged home on the intruder. But the old Turkey didn't budge an inch. On the contrary, he gobbled and strutted, and turned red and then blue, in true Turkey style. He scratched and pecked away so vigorously, that the old Mastiff, with one eye put out and his tail pecked off, retired to his den. But the old Turkey's wrath was roused. He attacked the dogs in every direction, and in 1453 walked into the very den of the old Mastiff himself. By the middle of the sixteenth century the old Turkey had attained his full strength and vigor. Then it was that he spread his tail more haughtily

that at any other period of his life, and from this period we date his decline. Such a wonderful Turkey as this naturally attracted attention. Away up among the drifting snows and towering icebergs of the Northwest, an old Bear sits upon his haunches. For centuries his eyes have been fixed upon the old Turkey. He has consumed the small dogs about him one after another, until he has grown strong and rugged, but he has ever desired a slice of roast Turkey. In another corner of Europe resides the famous. Bulldog of history. He has grown sleek and glossy with good fare. Yet as any common dog, although full to overflowing, falls into a rage when he sees any other dog with a bone in his mouth, so this old Bulldog, although reveling in plenty, growls when he sees the old Bear casting wistful glances at the Turkey. He has a great heap of bones away off in Asia; and all the way he keeps them from the dogs in that country is by making them think that he can whip any dog, bear or gobbler in the universe. He is very much afraid that, if the old Bear has Turkey for dinner, he will grow so fat and stout as to become dangerous. Hence he has been, since the latter part of the eighteenth century, determined that the old Bear shall never make a meal of Turkey. Across the channel the fiery Bloodhound holds sway. Once the terror of Europe, he is now quiet and subdued; for a few years ago he lost his tail in a fight with the Prussian Terrier. The Prussian Terrier, however, fared so well on the tail of the Bloodhound and on numerous Dutch puppies which he consumed, that he has grown into a powerful mastiff. Thus the poor Turkey has been, and is now, surrounded by a host of friendly enemies, each one of whom would be glad to consume him. Now they have united to drive off the Bear; now they have tried to divide up the old Turkey between themselves, but, owing to their doggish selfishness and distrust of each other, never could come to an agreement. The result has been that the old Turkey, attacked first on one side and then on another, has had a hard time of it since the sixteenth century. Enfeebled in body and weakened in his joints, he can no longer make the air resound with his furious gobble, but can only hobble around and utter his peculiar syllabic cry.

And now the shaggy neighbor is again on his track. The old Turkey, deserted by his friends, recalls his pristine valor, elevates his only remaining tail feather, and pecks away as best he can. But I fear that, unless the "dogs of war" are soon let loose, there will come to our ears the sound of crackling bones, as the old Bear partakes of his long sought dish — roast Turkey.

S. M. H.

NEW WORDS IN TENNYSON'S "HAROLD."

Nothing is more evident than that the English language is a thing of life, and therefore of growth. Spoken by a most enterprising nation, to say the least, no wonder it is running over with energy. The language sweeps on in a line parallel with the civilization of its users. Therefore, as English-speaking nations go on in culture from one step to another, so their language is increased by streams running in from every direction. The various arts, trades, sciences, all contribute their vocabularies. It has always been a critical question, to what extent any individual has the power or right to coin new words. It is certain that this power is granted to but few. As Ben Jonson well says, "a man coins not a new word without some peril, and less fruit: for if it happen to be received, the praise is but moderate; if refused, the scorn is assured."

Among those who hold a license from the people to undertake this difficult task, the poets, are conspicuous. They stand on a border world, and strive in the melody of nature to immure into human language thoughts and feelings that are inexpressible. They are led to find how feeble for their purposes is the human tongue, with all its wealth.

In casting about for a living example, we naturally look to Tennyson, our greatest modern

poet. He, more extensively than any of his contemporaries, has tried new words, has attempted to bring back that freshness into the English language which he has everywhere found in his Grecian researches. His power seems to lie, to a great extent, in his adjectives. When in a pinch he makes no ado about inventing a new word to suit the occasion. These generally come from the old Saxon, by composition.

This use of adjectives is found nowhere so frequent as in his latest drama, *Harold*. While recognizing the many merits of this work, we still are compelled to say that it has little of that latent Promethean fire that characterizes Shakespeare even in his poorest attempts. The *Harold*, however, ranks among the first of our modern plays, and coming from a master hand, is eagerly read. Notwithstanding these patent defects, we find some consolation in the beautiful and striking expressions found so frequently in its pages. The play opens with a scene representing several courtiers who stand gazing at a meteor. One says,

> Lo! there once more — this is the seventh night!
> Yon *grimly-glaring, treble-brandish'd* scourge
> Of England!

"*Grimly-glaring, treble-brandish'd* scourge"! what a depth of superstition is found within these words! The fate of nations hanging on that one red ball! These adjectives carry us back to the gloomy ages of seer and prophet, when the lives of men and nations were determined by the positions of the stars, and revealed by the astrologer in his midnight observations.

Reading on, we soon find a decidedly objectionable word, *undescendible*. A little further along we find the very expressive word, *Moloch-ize*, borrowed from Phœnician idolatry, and containing in itself a world of savagery. *Work-wan* and *flesh-fallen* occur soon after. They are pure Saxon and have a native force about them which could not be expressed by a Latin derivative. *Head-shaking* pictures clearly to our minds an old man full of fear and warning, conservative to the extreme, yet a wise counselor among hot-headed soldiers.

In that inimitable scene in the first act between Harold and Edith, which shows the touch of a master-hand and rivals any love scene in Shakespeare in naturalness and tenderness, we find the obsolete *peregrine* revived. In the second act, scene first, we find the obsolete word *outlander*, a good substitute for the word *foreign* derived from the Latin through the French.

Soon after follows the expression, "Thou art the *human-heartedest*, *christian-charitiest* of all crab-catchers," uttered by one fisherman to another. Here we see no authority for such compounds but poetic license. The expression seems strained. While it may have a marked energy it surely is not appropriate to the simplicity of a fisherman.

Cliff-gibbeted becomes more expressive when we imagine a body dangling over the sea cliffs as a warning to all other smugglers. "*Shore-swallowed*, armored Normans" is a little obscure.

Friendship-fast, *sea-laughter*, *iron-mooded*, *out-towering*, *down-silvering* beard, *out-passioned*, *friendly-friendly* smile, *pardonablest*, *stupid-honest*, *fox-lion*, "*corpse-candles* gliding over nameless graves," *self-lauding*, *shield-wall*, *tonguesters*, *egg-bald* head, *willy-nilly*, *low-moaning* heavens, *mummy-saints*, *perjury-mongering*, "all their horse swallow up the hill *locust-like*, swarming up," *war-wood* man. These are a few of the words, mostly adjectives, which Tennyson has selected to embellish his drama.

Whether he has done this wisely or unwisely, they certainly add a pleasing variety, a certain rough Saxon coloring to the play very much in harmony with the subject. Many of these words, of course, were brought into being for the present occasion and never after will be used.

A thorough examination of this play clearly shows the position of the poet in the development of our language. Tennyson has gone back, not without fitness to his subject, to that clear, fresh growth of our language, and called back to life many beautiful expressions with the early dew of a Saxon morning still glistening on their foliage.

W.

The Undergraduate.

Published Monthly During the College Year.

MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT, DECEMBER, 1877.

EDITORS:

W. J. FISH, '78, *Editor-in-Chief.*

M. B. MANLEY, '78, D. STEWART, '79,
J. W. ATWOOD, '78, J. W. BARRETT, '79,
D. P. HARDY, '78, H. W. HULBERT, '79.

TERMS:

ONE COLLEGE YEAR..... $1 00
SINGLE COPIES..... 12

Address all communications to THE UNDERGRADUATE, Middlebury, Vermont. No anonymous communications will be noticed.

EDITORIAL.

THE editorial path generally, if we accept the testimony of those who for years have trodden it, is a thorny one at best, but the same authority also asserts that it can be made much smoother and easier by little labors of love; and we would request, as we have requested before, two such labors at the hands of the alumni. The first is, that they will contribute more generously to our personal columns, and the second, that they will favor us with occasional and spicy correspondence. If we dared, we would like to add a third, and if we were a Eurystheus, should impose it, but we are not, and it would be a colossal imagination that saw aught in these labors actually approaching to the Herculean. Indeed, they are so far in contrast to it, that we hope for a hearty and immediate response.

THE *Rutland Herald & Globe*, of Dec. 18, has an interesting editorial on the University of Vermont, in which it notes and deplores the multitude of partial courses pursued at that institution, speaks of the state agricultural college as a perfect failure, and broadly hints at the application of the state fund. The writer mentions Middlebury's classical superiority to Burlington, and repeats that it is a mistake for the latter institution to endeavor to furnish thorough courses in everything. From this point he proceeds to advocate the conversion of the University into a strictly scientific school—giving the classics to Middlebury—claiming that the University might then reasonably demand assistance from the state, and that by such a precedure, the educational interests of the state would be greatly furthered. We will not commit ourselves to any opinion, but it seems to us, that at the least, the article in question is an important one from the very nature of its subject, and that it is worthy of consideration.

WITH regard to the marking system at Middlebury, a slight change has been made, by refusing students the privilege of consulting the record as often as heretofore. It has been customary to allow students, if they chose, to see their own marks at the end of the term or year, as well as those of others. But this has led to considerable fruitless criticism, and even more fruitless comparison, and has caused no little annoyance to the one who had the record in keeping. Such frequent consultation too, has a tendency to beget a rather exaggerated idea of the importance of these mystic little expressions, and to invest them with a seemingly intrinsic value; so that they have been looked upon by the student more as an ultimate and legitimate end of endeavor, than as simply an aid to the professors. While we believe that this spirit has not been overstrong among us, it yet seems evident that there has been too much of it, in comparison with that healthful, earnest and zealous spirit of scholarship which makes the highest excellence in the various departments its sole engrossing aim. Under the new regulation, marks are to be considered rather as aids to the professors, in awarding prizes and making the final appointments, than as proper objects of the students' scrutiny, criticism, and consequently solicitude. We are told that individual marks may be given, on ap-

plication, at the discretion of the several professors; but that relative standing will be refused, and also, that any one in peril of falling below the necessary standard as expressed in these symbols will be forewarned. In theory, certainly, this new arrangement is much superior to the old, and we may expect that its superiority will be demonstrated by experience.

The establishment of a national university at Washington, hinted at in the last President's message, and discussed at present by many eminent educators, is one of general interest. The idea of the supporters of such an institution seems to be a very worthy one. They would make Washington the centre of all the highest interests of the country. They would have it the home of art and science, the grand reservoir of American thought and genius. They would collect there an immense library, which would vie with those of continental renown. They would make it the centre of all literary, musical and artistic taste. By these means noble minds would be brought in contact. They would urge each other on with exalted emulation. They would revive the days of Addison and Samuel Johnson and their literary club, in which the magnetism of one spurred on a host of aspiring minds This high ideal is a worthy subject for contemplation. Nor would the friends of such an undertaking be wanting in worthy examples, and examples, too, confirmed by a long historic experience. The age of Pericles, who surrounded himself with the talent and genius of Greece, is such an example. The Augustan age of Roman literature, the intellectual supremacy of Mecca during the Dark Ages, the brilliancy of the court of Weimar, the concentration of genius around the throne of Elizabeth: all these are experiences that give no uncertain encouragement. The fact is, if a perfect, ideal, national university could be realized, there could be no question in this matter.

But the obstacles in this case seem insurmountable. Our form of government is not adapted to such an undertaking, especially in the present state of affairs. In a monarchy, where the reins are in the hands of one, there is no disagreement. In America, where such opposing sentiments are are at work, there would never be an agreement, as has been proved in the case of the Smithsonian Institution, which, with all possible advantages, has done little good and obtained less notoriety. Besides, we never could hope to gather together at Washington a faculty at all superior to those of Yale and Harvard. The hosts of alumni of these institutions, who form the backbone of our country, would rise in indignation at such an insulting attempt to outvie their Alma Maters.

Thus far the universal sentiment of the country seems to be decidedly against such a procedure. But still we would not cast away our fond ideal. We are sorely in need of some such central resort. We need a national library, one which will supply all the needs of our scientific and literary men, and not drive them across the Atlantic, where they, we are sorry to say, do little to advance the originality of American literature.

The introduction of philosophical essay writing, as a feature of the regular work of the Senior class, was alluded to in our last number, but it seems now that the writing of essays and theses is to be required from other classes and in various departments, Philosophy, Chemistry and Fine Art being the principal ones. The advantages of this kind of work are too marked and evident to require any enumeration, and it remains only to express our gratification that we are to have more of it, and a hope that the lively interest thus far manifested in it may continue nuabated.

Our short winter vacation is on trial for the second year. As yet it has not been fully tested, but from the few advantages that have come to our notice, we have no cause to look backward. The disadvantages, it is true, assume greater proportions when we are brought face to face with them. We are sorry to see several earnest scholars dropping out of their classes for lack of means. Yet this seems far better than to break

into the year's work, and by teaching in the winter take out the heart of the best part of the year. It is a serious disadvantage, however, to change classes. The romance of college life is not to be disregarded, but the student, who comes to work his way up, can cheerfully and patiently endure the loss. On the whole, we have no reason to regret the new order of things, and when custom has made it familiar, the disadvantages will no longer appear.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Editors UNDERGRADUATE: — For the present we hear little or nothing about "Annuals," but experience has taught us that this silence will be of short duration. Very wicked thoughts in regard to the subject will soon arise in the student's mind, and it will not be strange if some of these thoughts find expression in words of like character. To call attention to the means of preventing this undesirable state of mind is our present object.

We do not object to severe examinations, for they are both necessary and profitable. But there are degrees of severity to which we can never be reconciled. The examination at the end of the year includes, as most are well aware, all those branches passed over during the year, with the exception of one or two unimportant ones. Notwithstanding a rigorous examination is held at the end of the Fall term, we are required to pass a second examination upon the same studies at the end of the year. This is the degree of severity to which we object.

It is impossible for the great majority of students to pass a satisfactory examination in July upon the work of the Fall and Winter terms without a careful review of that work. Does it benefit the students in the least, either mentally or physically, to have this extra work forced upon them? Gladden says, "We cannot make prodigies of ourselves in any one particular without making fools of ourselves in many other particulars." Now, in preparing for this examination, by systematic cramming we do in fact for the time make prodigies of ourselves, having not only in our heads but in our pockets the wisdom of the ages. But if, by overtasking mind and body, we make fools of ourselves as Mr. Gladden affirms, then who will be responsible? Surely those who have made such a course a necessity.

We know of nothing in favor of our present method. It surely is not a test of scholarship. The student gifted with a retentive memory has little difficulty in preparing for the annual contest and is pretty sure to come out of it with flying colors, while another without such a gift, though his equal in other respects, has tasked his mind to the uttermost in preparing for the trial, and finds at the end that though he has clung faithfully to the standard, the *colors* have miraculously disappeared. To speak of the accessory evils that do and must follow this method is hardly necessary. The most that can be said in regard to them is, that the end does perhaps justify the means. Their injurious effects, however, are admitted by all.

But if the disease exists, what is the proposed remedy? Simply this: that a severe examination be required at the end of each term, but only upon the term's work. If it is impossible to determine who are fools by such an examination, then let the decision be withheld until it can be made with justice. Such term examinations would surely be fairer in every respect, and better tests of scholarship and of faithful work.

But we attribute to none any desire for the continuance of the present method, when considered simply as a method. All who support it, so far as we are aware, do so because the "Fathers" supported it. But judging from the partial changes that have been made of late, we are inclined to think that this example of the fathers no longer has its pristine influence. And if such be the case, a change of some character cannot be long delayed. And it would be exceedingly difficult to conceive of a change that would not be an improvement on the present custom.

Yours,

PHILOPOLEMUS.

TOWN AND CAMPUS.

Merry Christmas.

What is the matter with the choir?

Pay for your paper. We are hard up.

One more victim of the prohibitory law.

What is becoming of the Freshman class?

Pres. Hulbert has eight appointments to lecture before New Year's.

A few of the students will remain in the Halls during the coming vacation.

The *Kaleidoscope* is to be for sale at the bookstore of W. S. Alden. Price forty cents.

Some of the boys had a "Gay" time the other night — nothing bad, only an oyster supper.

A new laundry has been opened in town, and is said to be doing good work at reasonable rates.

That was rather hard on the Senior who walked five miles for some cider — and then didn't get it.

Several of the Sophs "cut" recitation, the other day, to see the new St. Bernard dog. They pronounce him a beauty.

What has become of the dog that a certain Senior was so prone to mention in the moral science class? We have not heard from him lately.

Alas, it is sad, he must go to his dad, this undutiful son; on account of his revelry, his too frequent deviltry, his dreaded dismission has come.

And now two of our editors have concluded that their health is too poor for college life. It has been hard enough to get articles heretofore; what will it be now?

The Seniors are reported to have done an excellent term's work, and to have had interesting essays. The other classes also seem to have been faithful and thorough.

The Terpsichorean, after the Choral concert, was a decidedly pleasant affair, and we understand that the proceeds were large. The ladies furnished the refreshments.

Now do the students ponder over the term accounts, and with many misgivings and great trepidation write to pater familias for more money than their allowance stipulated.

There are now five barber shops in town. One of them advertises to cut hair for ten cents and shave for six, and then hits the students by saying that it will shave them and boys for five.

Alas! and what is winter vacation, sighs the universal student, except we have good sleighing? We could survive with skating, but to have neither is worse than home without a mother.

There has been more sickness in College this term than at any time during the last four years. Seven of the boys have been sick at home at one time.

A little explosion in the Laboratory created quite a consternation among the Juniors. No one was injured, but the escape was a narrow one, and more care will be exercised in the future.

And now again are the recitations made very unpleasant by the fumes of sulphuretted hydrogen which arise from the Laboratory. It is fun for the Juniors, but how the other students do swear!

The first lecture of the Graded School course was given, Dec. 14, by Prof. Higley. Subject, "The Study of the Past." Prof. B. Kellogg, of the Brooklyn Polytechnic, gives the second, Dec. 28. Subject, "Expression."

Once more peace reigns in the classic halls. The Freshmen are quiet and no more threats are heard concerning blowing up the Chapel. In their more sober moments they are willing to acknowledge that Alma Mater was but just.

The laziest man in college has a contrivance so made that, when his alarm strikes, the drafts of his stove are opened and his room is nicely warmed when he makes his morning ablutions. Instead of necessity, we would say that laziness was the mother of invention.

A rusty-looking tramp about eighty years old, professing to be a poor orphan on his way to Burlington, scoured the College the other day for a cast-off shirt. However, he was unsuccessful until one of the students gave him one of the unmentionables belonging to a chum. *Secutus est* family broil.

He thought he had a ripe cancer, and had commenced making his will. He would have given away all his possessions had not two of his friends quarreled about certain of his garments. The cancer was only a scare, and he is better now, so that his friends are sorry they cast lots for his raiment.

The Choral Society, Prof. E. H. Higley, director, gave their semi-annual concert, the eighteenth of the month. It was a marked success in every way. The soloists were well received, the cornet solo, by Mr. E. L. Hatch, and the flute solo, by Mr. Murkland of '81, being laudable new features. The "little episode" furnished a remarkable instance of real courage, which was deservedly applauded.

It was Thanksgiving morning, wet and dreary, as a Junior, dressed in his best, with white dickey and well polished tile, and a sermon protruding from his pocket, started to preach in a neighboring village. But as he started he bethought himself of an engagement to play at a hop in the same town, and returned for his instrument. His appearance as he plodded along through the mud was extremely ludicrous, the more so on account of the incongruity of his baggage — a sermon and a violin.

PERSONALS.

'33. Hon. Mark Skinner, of Chicago, formerly of Manchester, Vt., is one of the Vice Presidents of the Illinois Association of the Sons of Vermont.

'34. C. B. Drake, D. D., is located at Royalton.

'38. Mary Clemmer, in *The Independent*, speaks of "little Dr. Sunderland," "whose voice is so much bigger and mightier than his person," and "who lifts it up in a prayer which the Lord himself, if he hears it, must consider a model of brevity and eloquence."

'40. Dr. Alfred Miller, who died in Fitchburg, Mass., on the 15th ult., was a native of West Westminster, Vt. He graduated in medicine in 1844, at the medical school at Woodstock, and afterwards commenced the practice of his profession at Ashburnham, in 1845. He removed to Fitchburg in May, 1862, and continued in the uninterrupted practice of his profession until his death. For eight years previous to the incorporation of Fitchburg as a city, he served on the school committee, of which he was an interested and active member. In 1862 he received the appointment of coroner for Worcester county, and served in that capacity until the office was abolished in 1877. He was twice elected a member of the Legislature, first in 1866, and also in 1876.

'46. Peter Starr, Esq., of New York, has been making Middlebury a Thanksgiving visit.

'47. Prof. G. N. Boardman, of the Chicago Theological Seminary, in a recent speech to Vermonters at Chicago, alluded to Vermont theologians as carrying "theology in their heads and the whole world in their hearts."

'53. J. E. Weeks, M. D., is practicing his profession at West Constable, N. Y.

'57. E. G. Hunt, Esq., of Middlebury, has returned from Colorado, where he has been taking testimony for an important suit pending in the Addison County Court.

'60. E. B. Sherman, attorney and counselor at law, has his office at Room 30, 156 Washington St., Chicago.

'60. Charles M. Hollis is located at Marion, Linn county, Iowa, where he has been for the past ten or twelve years. He announces himself as an attorney at law, broker and real estate agent. He was a sufferer to the amount of about $2500 by the recent failure of Twogood & Elliott, bankers of that place.

'62. A little contrivance known as a chronometric governor or time-damper has been invented and patented by Rev. E. H. Randall, of Poultney. It is constructed upon the principle of an alarm clock, and enclosed in a small metallic box, which is attached to a perpendicular rod placed in close proximity to either stove or furnace. The instrument, after being wound up, is connected with the stove-damper, which it can be set to open at any hour desired.

'68. Prof. E. H. Higley has been lecturing quite extensively thus far in the season, and has several more engagements for the winter.

'70. Sidney H. Foster, M. D., is practicing at Moira, Franklin county, N. Y.. He was elected this fall to the office of coroner.

'72. H. M. Ladd is the father of another little girl.

'74. C. C. Gove, of Westport, receives a call to the lecture platform and accepts.

'76. T. E. Boyce is teaching the natural sciences at Jennings Seminary, Aurora, Ill.

'76. W. W. Gay, former editor-in-chief of THE UNDERGRADUATE, was in town for a few days recently. At present he is with Beeman & Brennan, attorneys, of Malone, N. Y.

'76. C. M. Prynne, of the Springfield *Republican*, has also been revisiting the town and college.

'77. Beeman Academy, H. P. Stimson, principal, began its winter term Dec. 11, with full numbers.

'77. A. T. Stapleton translates the French inscription over the entrance to the old post office at Quebec as follows:

> "I am the dog that gnaws the bone,
> And take my rest in gnawing alone;
> The time shall come, tho' yet to be,
> When I shall bite who e'er bit me."

We are told that he received a small prize for this translation.

'77. J. M. Gifford, teaching at Mechanicville, N. Y., and N. H. Munsill, at Wallingford, revisited Middlebury during their vacations.

THE SANCTUM.

The department of exchanges seems to be going out of date with many of our college journals, but it is better that it should, than to have such unfair criticism and petty irascibility appear as has been shown by some of them.

The last number of the *University Press* received has no exchange column, but one devoted to popular literature and new music.

"Among the Books" in the December *Neoterian* was a very interesting article. The stress it lays upon the importance of a love for reading, and its cultivation as a habit, we can well endorse. The *Neoterian* is to be consolidated with the *Lawrence Collegian*.

We have liked the *Bowdoin Orient*, but the last number is not up to the standard. The "Poplar Tree" possesses considerable merit, but the article entitled "Intellect" is a burlesque on its heading.

Singing Schools and Choirs

THIS WINTER WILL USE

CHORUS CHOIR INSTRUCTION BOOK.

($1.25, or $12 per doz.), by A. N. JOHNSON Such commendations of it as "Simply the best and most complete work of the kind we have ever been privileged to meet with," from the Boston Traveller, are getting to be as common as they are well deserved. Instructive course and 260 pages of music.

ENCORE.

(75 cents, or $7.50 per doz.), by L. O. EMERSON, is already in extensive use. Fine instructive course, and capital and complete collection of glees, quartettes, airs, sacred tunes and anthems for practice.

PERKINS' SINGING SCHOOL.

(75 cents, or $6.75 per doz.), by W. O. PERKINS, has of course entirely different matter from that in the "Encore," but closely resembles it in plan and general excellence of contents.

SALUTATION.

($1.25, or $12 per doz.), by L. O. EMERSON, is a first-class church music book, with a full set of tunes, chants and anthems, a full instructive course, and plenty of examples, airs, part-songs, &c., for practice.

ZION

($1.25, or $12 per doz.), by W. O. PERKINS, is the latest church music book of the author and of the first quality. 336 pages, of which 100 pages are filled with anthems, 100 pages with easy music for the singing school, and 75 pages with metrical tunes.

Any book mailed, post free, for retail price.

OLIVER DITSON & CO., BOSTON.

THE

PREMIUM SHIRT!

Every one guaranteed to fit perfectly.

SAVE YOUR ORDERS FOR

W. P. BUELL, OF COHOES, N. Y.,

WHO WILL COME WITH THE BIRDS.

A full assortment of COLLARS AND CUFFS.

ALBERT LAWTENSLAGER,

594 BROADWAY, ALBANY, N. Y.,

Manufacturing Jeweler and Diamond Setter.

ALSO MANUFACTURER OF ALL KINDS OF

COLLEGE SOCIETY BADGES.

None but the best material the market affords is used.

HARPER & BROTHERS,

—NEW YORK,—

Publishers of School and College Text Books,

Adapted to all grades of Schools, Academies and Colleges.

For terms for introduction, address,

A. C. STOCKIN,

41 Franklin St., Boston, Mass.,

Agent for New England.

J. H. SARGENT,

MANUFACTURER OF TIN WARE,

Allen Block, Middlebury.

JOB WORK OF ALL KINDS

in my line promptly attended to, and done the best and at the cheapest rates of any in town, from the tinning of roofs to the repairing of tin whistles. Pumps repaired and Plumbing done in a satisfactory manner.

E. E. SMITH,

LAWYER & GENERAL INSURANCE AGENT,

Office with Stewart & Eldredge,

Middlebury, Vt.

ALSON B. COLBY,

Takes pleasure in announcing to the students and the public generally that he has opened a First-Class Restaurant, opposite the Journal Office, where meals may be had at all hours.

CONFECTIONERY, FRUIT, AND PASTRY

ALWAYS ON HAND.

ICE CREAM AND OYSTERS,

IN THEIR SEASON.

TOBACCO AND CIGARS

A SPECIALTY.

DARWIN RIDER,

ADDISON HOUSE

LIVERY & BOARDING STABLE.

FIRST-CLASS TURNOUTS,

—AND—

EXPERIENCED DRIVERS.

B. F. OWENS & CO.

DEALERS IN

DRY GOODS, GROCERIES,
DRUGS, MEDICINES,
AND PERFUMES.

It is our aim to furnish seasonable goods at fair prices with justice to all.

HACK & LIVERY STABLE,

OPPOSITE VALLETTE'S STORE, WHERE

GOOD TURNOUTS & ATTENTIVE DRIVERS

CAN BE HAD ON SHORT NOTICE.

W. H. ELLIS.

TUPPER & HUNT,

Attorneys and Counsellors at Law, and Solicitors in Chancery.

No. 2 Tupper's Block, Middlebury, Vt.

W. H. KINGSLEY,

DENTIST,

Up Stairs in Styles' New Block, Middlebury.

STAR SHAVING ROOMS

Students and the Public generally will find here first-class work. A mug and brush furnished for every regular customer free of charge.

T. M. CHAPMAN & CO.,

DEALERS IN GENERAL MERCHANDISE,

MIDDLEBURY, VT.

FRANK J. TAYLOR,

DENTIST,

Office hours 8 to 12 A. M., 1 to 5 P. M. Office over J. I. Buttolph's store.

Middlebury, Vt.

A. J. STYLES,

PHOTOGRAPHER

(GALLERY ON FIRST FLOOR),

MAIN STREET, - - - MIDDLEBURY, VT.

ALSO DEALER IN

Stereoscopes and Stereoscopic Views, Chromos, Flower Panels, black and blue ground; Photographs of Statuary, Albums, Oval and Square Frames, in all sizes and great variety, Picture Cord, Porcelian Picture Knobs, Passeportouts of various sizes, Motto Frames and Mats for same.

If you wish to buy be sure and call. If you do not wish to buy come in and look at the pictures; it will pay you in either case.

☞ Remember the place, ☜

STYLES' PHOTOGRAPH AND FINE ART GALLERY,

IN HIS NEW BUILDING,

NEXT DOOR TO CHAPMAN & CO.'S STORE.

P. FLETCHER CHAPMAN,

MERCHANT TAILOR,

ALLEN'S BLOCK, MIDDLEBURY, VT.

REMEMBER YOU CAN ALWAYS FIND

THE BEST TEAMS AT

WILLIAMSON'S

OLD ESTABLISHED LIVERY STABLE.

FIRST-CLASS

ICE CREAM AND DINING ROOMS

AT MANNEY'S.

S. E. MEEKIN'S

SHAVING AND HAIR CUTTING ROOMS,

No. 2 Union Block, Middlebury, Vt.,

Is the place to get shaved. A clean towel for every customer. Satisfaction guaranteed. Give him a call.

FRANK A. FARNSWORTH,

—DEALER IN—

IRON, STEEL AND NAILS,

CARRIAGE BUILDER'S, CABINET & HOUSE FURNISHING

HARDWARE,

AGRICULTURAL & MECHANIC'S TOOLS,

Tin, Hollow Ware and Stoves, Lumber, Wood, etc.

☞ Job Work of all kinds done on short notice.

MIDDLEBURY, VT.

DR. PLUMLEY,

— SELLS —

STATIONERY TO STUDENTS

AND EVERYBODY ELSE

15 to 25 per cent. less than can be bought elsewhere.

A FULL LINE OF

DRUGS, CHEMICALS AND PERFUMERY.

Next the Post Office.